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TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	SOUTH VIETNAM	REPORT NO.	TD CS -3/564,022
SUBJECT	SITREP AS OF 1700 HOURS, 5 NOVEMBER 1963	DATE DISTR.	5 NOVEMBER 1963
DATE OF INFO.	5 NOVEMBER 1963	PRECEDENCE	PRIORITY
PLACE & DATE ACQ.	VIETNAM, SAIGON (5 NOVEMBER 1963)	REFERENCES	IN 54581 TDCS-3/563,945

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: NOV 2002

APPRAISAL FIELD REPORT NO.
THIS IS **UNEVALUATED** INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE THIS IS A SOUTH VIETNAMESE SITUATION REPORT PREPARED AT 1700 HOURS LOCAL TIME ON 5 NOVEMBER 1963 BY CAS.

1. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW PROVISIONAL GOVT UNDER PREMIER NGUYEN NGOC THO LATE YESTERDAY HAS HELPED EASE TENSIONS IN IMMEDIATE AFTERMATH OF 1 NOV COUP D'ETAT AND WILL PRESUMABLY PAVE WAY FOR EARLY RECOGNITION OF NEW REGIME. FORMATION OF NEW GOVT APPARENTLY WAS ATTENDED BY CONSIDERABLE JOCKEYING FOR POSITION AMONG MILITARY AND CIVILIAN CLAIMANTS FOR JOBS, AND IT IS LIKELY THAT A NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS HAVE COME AWAY FROM THESE NEGOTIATIONS DISAPPOINTED AND POSSIBLY SOMEWHAT DISAFFECTED. WE ARE ALSO BEGINNING TO GET GLIMPSES OF STRESSES WITHIN RULING MILITARY COMMITTEE, WITH THE OVERWELMING AMBITIONS OF GEN TON THAT DINH APPARENTLY BEING THE PRINCIPAL DISEQUILIBRATING FACTOR.

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IMMEDIATE TO:	DIRNSA	AFSSO	WHITE HOUSE SIT ROOM
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	JCS	NIC	MANDATORY REVIEW
	CNO (OP 922 Y 1)		CASE # NLK- 97-29
			DOCUMENT # 22

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2. DR. PHAN HUY QUAT, APPARENTLY SLATED TO BECOME CHAIRMAN
NEW CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL WHOSE FORMATION IS EXPECTED TO BE ANNOUNCED
SHORTLY , [REDACTED] BIG MINH
AND THO WERE PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR SELECTION OF NEW CABINET.
QUAT CHARACTERIZED NEW GOVT AS BEING ALMOST WHOLLY SOUTHERN (BOTH

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MINH AND THO ARE SOUTHERNERS) AND STATED THAT WHILE MANY OF NEW
APPOINTEES ARE GOOD TECHNICIANS, THERE ARE FEW CAPABLE ADMINISTRATORS
AMONG THEM. HE FURTHER NOTED THAT MANY OF NEW MINISTERS WERE LONG-
STANDING FRIENDS OF EITHER MINH OR THO. PRECISE FUNCTIONS OF
PROJECTED CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL HAVE YET TO BE WORKED OUT, BUT QUAT
BELIEVES THAT IN GENERAL, COUNCIL WILL HAVE TASK OF ADVISING ON NEW
CONSTITUTION, PREPARING FOR NEW ELECTIONS, AND CONCERNING ITSELF
BROADLY WITH AFFAIRS WHICH WOULD NORMALLY COME BEFORE NOW
DISSOLVED NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

3. GENERAL DON ON 4 NOV [REDACTED] WAS INTERESTED IN [REDACTED] ADVICE ON
ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ESPIONAGE AND COUNTER-ESPIONAGE SERVICE
VIET CONG DIRECTED AGAINST (VC) TO BE SET UP UNDER MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE
BUT SEPARATE FROM JGS J-2. THIS IS TO BE CLANDESTINE SERVICE.

4. ON 5 NOVEMBER, DIRECTOR OF MITAC, A TOBACCO PRODUCING FIRM,
TURNED OVER TO GOVT THE NUMBERS OF THE SWISS BANK ACCOUNTS OF NGO
FAMILY . FINANCIER, [REDACTED] NGUYEN VAN BUU THE COUP COMMITTEE HAS LEARNED

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THAT A GOOD PART OF THE NGO FAMILY FINANCIAL MANIPULATIONS WERE CONDUCTED THROUGH A FRENCH-OWNED BANK, BANQUE FRANCO-CHINOISE IN SAIGON. BOOKS OF THIS BANK WILL BE CONFISCATED. TRAN QUOC BUU, IS PRESIDENT, GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF VIETNAMESE LABOR BEING HELD PRISONER AT JGS COMPOUND IN GEN. KHANH'S HOUSE. NEW GOVT HAS CONFISCATED ALL OF BUU'S SHIPS AND IS INTERROGATING HIM RE HIS PAST

5. FORMER INTERIOR MINISTER BUI VAN LUONG SAID ON 5 NOVEMBER THAT CERTAIN OF PAST FUNCTIONS OF MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, INCLUDING RURAL AFFAIRS AND STRATEGIC HAMLETS, ARE BEING MOVED OVER TO MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE. LUONG HAS ACCEPTED INVITATION FROM PREMIER THO TO JOIN GOVT AS CHIEF OF COMMISSARIAT OF FORTIFIED HAMLETS. HENCEFORTH, THE TERM "STRATEGIC HAMLETS" WILL NOT BE USED SINCE NEW GOVT DOES NOT DESIRE TO UTILIZE ANY OF NHU'S DIALECTIC. (COMMENT: REPORTED TRANSFER OF THESE IMPORTANT PROGRAMS, WHICH KEY TO COUNTERIN- SURGENCY EFFORT AND WHICH RECEIVE SUBSTANTIAL AID FUNDS, MAY BE SIGNIFICANT ANTICIPATORY EFFORT BY OTHER GENERALS TO LIMIT GROWTH OF DINH'S POWER.) DINH, AS LUONG'S SUCCESSOR, MOVED INTO LATTER'S OFFICIAL HOUSE TODAY. LUONG WAS ONE OF SEVERAL WHO DURING PAST DAY OR SO HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER DINH'S TROUBLE-MAKING POTENTIAL.

6. ON AFTERNOON OF 5 NOV NGO DINH CAN, ACCOMPANIED BY AN AIDE, TOOK REFUGE IN AMERICAN CONULATE IN HUE AND WITH AGREEMENT OF NEW GOVT, WAS EVACUATED FROM HUE TO SAIGON, WHERE HE WAS TURNED

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LODGE HIS

OVER TO MILITARY AUTHORITIES. GEN DON HAS GIVEN AMB/PERSONAL ASSURANCES THAT CAN WILL BE WELL TREATED AND THAT CAN'S FATE WILL DEPEND ON STRICTLY LEGAL PROCESSES. CAN DESIRES TO LEAVE COUNTRY TO GO EITHER TO PHILIPPINES OR JAPAN. IT IS ANTICIPATED, HOWEVER, THAT CAN WILL BE TRIED FOR PAST CRIMES IN HUE. DON HAD PREVIOUSLY STATED TO RELIABLE AMERICAN SOURCE THAT IF AMERICANS EVACUATED CAN FROM VIETNAM, ANGER OF PEOPLE IN HUE WOULD BE SUCH THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO GUARANTEE SAFETY OF CONSULATE IN HUE. EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs (C)

7. MAJ GEN LE VAN NGHIEM, NEW COMMANDER OF VIETNAMESE SPECIAL FORCES, TOLD [REDACTED] ON 4 NOV THAT ONE OF MAJOR PROBLEMS FACING NEW REGIME WAS DISPOSITION OF PROVINCE CHIEFS. NGHIEM CLAIMED THAT ABOUT NINE OUT OF TEN OF DIEM-APPOINTED PROVINCE CHIEFS WERE EITHER CORRUPT OR FABRICATED INFORMATION TO PLEASE FORMER GOVT ON VIET-CONG SITUATION. IN ADDITION, MANY OF THESE MEN WERE INCOMPETENT AND INEFFICIENT, THEIR SOLE QUALIFICATION BEING THEIR LOYALTY TO DIEM REGIME. IT WAS CLEAR FROM TONE OF NGHIEM'S REMARKS THAT HE AT LEAST CONSIDERS REPLACEMENT OF PROVINCE CHIEFS A PRIORITY ITEM AND THAT HE WILL ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL TO TAKE THE NECESSARY ACTION. WHETHER COUNCIL RESPONSIVE TO NGHIEM'S SUGGESTIONS REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

8. GEN MAI HUU XUAN, THE NEW POWER IN THE POLICE AND CIVILIAN

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INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY, IS MOVING RAPIDLY TO PURGE CONSTITUENT AGENCIES OF DIEMIST ELEMENTS AND TO REPLACE THEM WITH HIS OWN FOLLOWERS. COL. HUYNH NGOC LANG, FORMER CHIEF OF SECURITY FOR THE CIVIL GUARD AND EARLIER IN HIS CAREER A DEPUTY CHIEF OF MSS, HAS REPLACED COL. NGUYEN VAN Y AS CHIEF OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATION. IN ADDITION TO ARRESTS OF LEADING POLICE OFFICIALS DUONG G VAN HIEU AND NGUYEN VAN HAY, NUMEROUS SECOND ECHELON SPECIAL OPERATIONS CORP POLICE AND (SOC) FUNCTIONARIES HAVE EITHER BEEN ARRESTED OR REPLACED. IN NHA TRANG, FOR EXAMPLE, REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF POLICE AND LOCAL SOC STAFF ARRESTED ON 5 NOV; OPERATIONAL FILES OF SOC UNHAPPILY CARTED OFF FOR MORE LEISURELY INSPECTION BY NEW POWERS THAT BE

IN NHA TRANG. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT ABOUT 200 OF XUAN'S FOLLOWERS ARE COMING IN FROM PROVINCES SEEKING NEW JOBS AT DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF NATIONAL POLICE AND COMBAT YOUTH. / (DGNP) AND (C). MOST OF XUAN'S APPOINTMENTS TO DATE, COMPRISE MAINLY OLD INTELLIGENCE HANDS WHO WORKED WITH FRENCH, WHICH WOULD BE IN LINE WITH ALLEGATIONS THAT XUAN HAS BEEN AND MAY STILL BE A FRENCH AGENT.

9. FOLLOWING INFO RECEIVED DURING LAST 24 HOURS RE FATE OF TOP DIEM FOLLOWERS. FORMER CIVIC ACTION MINISTER NGO TRONG HIEU (MILITARY SECURITY SERVICE) REPORTED BY MSS/SOURCES TO HAVE BEEN CAPTURED WHILE SEEKING TO FLEE SAIGON AFTER LEAVING REFUGE AT PHILIPPINE EMBASSY ON 4 NOV;

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HIEU IS REPORTEDLY DEAD. FORMER YOUTH LEADER
CAO XUAN VY REPORTED

BY SAME SOURCES TO HAVE BEEN EXECUTED. COL. Y, ALTHOUGH REMOVED
AS POLICE CHIEF AND CIO COMMISSIONER, HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN GIVEN
OPPORTUNITY TO WORK HIS PASSAGE BACK WITH MILITARY BY TRYING TO
RECOVER ALL FINANCIAL ASSETS OF NGO FAMILY.

10. GENERAL DON SAID ON 5 NOV THAT BOTH HE AND MINH HAD
GONE TO PAY THEIR RESPECTS TO REMAINS OF PRES DIEM PRIOR TO HIS BURIAL
SOMETIME YESTERDAY. CATHOLIC BURIAL WAS ARRANGED.

11. FIELD DISSEM. STATE ARMY NAVY AIR USMACV MAAG AID USIA 9TH FIELD
STATION 2ND AIR DIVISION CINCPAC ARPAC PACAF PACFLT.

END OF MESSAGE

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